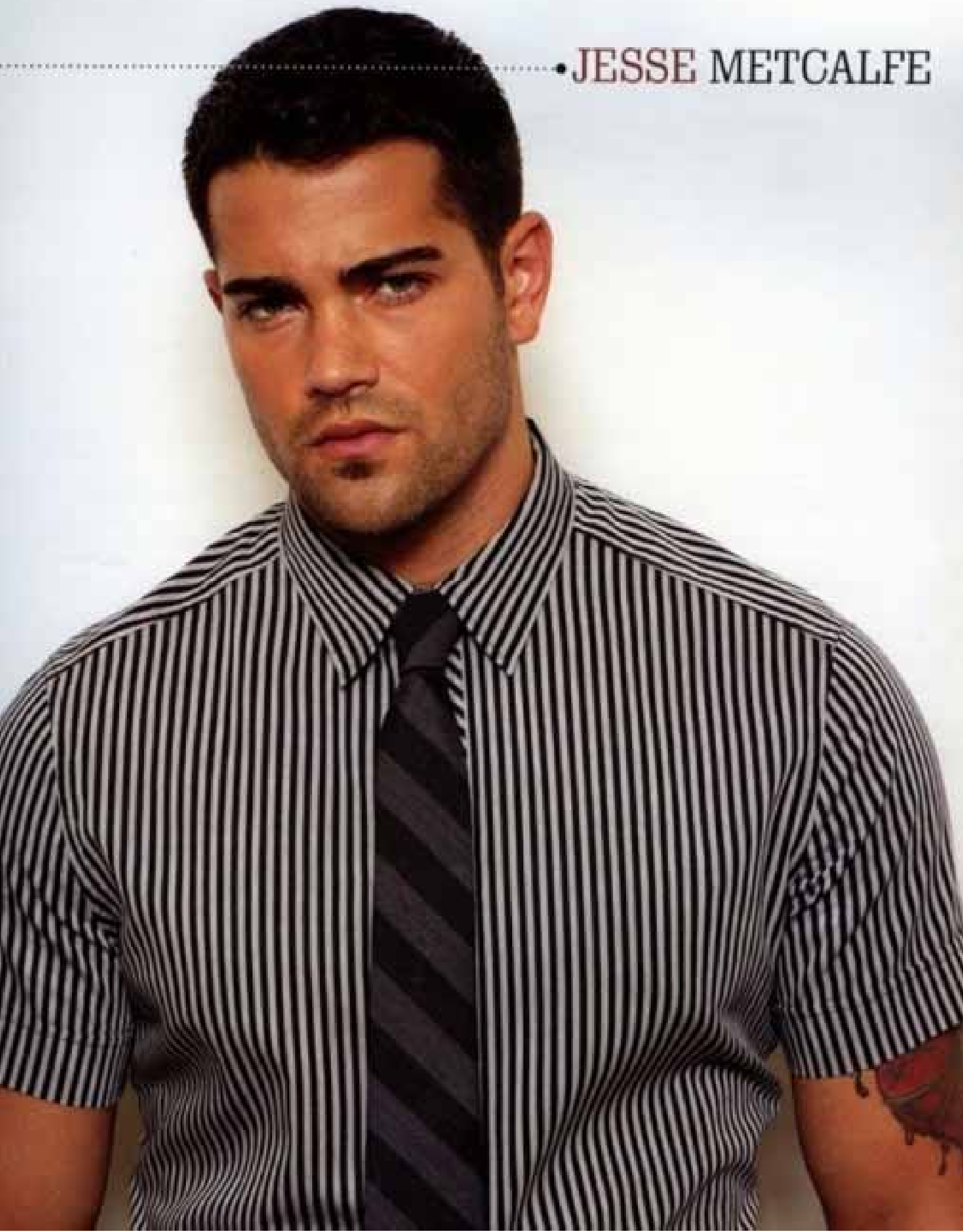


• JESSE METCALFE



Go Jesse, Go!

Metcalfe teams up with GO Campaign

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e became a household name with his turn on *Desperate Housewives* from 2004 to 2009 playing John Rowland, the love-struck teenaged gardener who had an illicit affair with Gabrielle Solis, Eva Longoria's character. However, in addition to that plum role, Jesse

Metcalfe starred in two films in 2009 and recently became an ambassador for an organization called GO Campaign.

Dedicated to helping orphans and vulnerable children throughout the world build a better future, GO Campaign is focused on the countries of China, Cambodia, Kenya, Malawi, Peru, Rwanda, Tanzania and Malawi. The main goal of this youth-driven nonprofit is to cut out the red tape and provide direct access to grassroots projects that improve—and often save—the lives of vulnerable children around the globe.

Metcalfe got involved back in the summer of 2009 and quickly made the decision to become an ambassador.

"I heard about the campaign from a friend and literally asked the organization if I could become involved," he says. "Simple as that. And lucky for me, they said yes. I like the fact that the GO Campaign is 100 percent centered

on helping orphans and less-fortunate children throughout the world."

While he is new to working with the organization, he adds, "I know it's going to be a long-lasting relationship for both of us. I love children, and the thought of kids in need made me want to reach out and help in whatever way I can."

Metcalfe recently attended the organization's second Go Go Gala in November. All of the proceeds went to needy children. "What I like about this organization is that it partners with small grassroots organizations in places that need the help. They pick small organizations that may be otherwise overlooked by larger nonprofit grant-making organizations. I love that 100 percent of all donations to GO Campaign go directly to the organizations that are in need."

He is excited soon to be taking his first trip as ambassador. "We're currently planning a trip to Peru or India, and I can't wait to go 'on ground' and see what a difference this organization is making."

He's not sitting around waiting for that trip, however. Instead, he is visiting schools in the United States to raise awareness about the GO Campaign.

"I want to make everyone aware of all the young people around the globe in need."

Metcalfe grew up in Connecticut. Looking back to his roots, he emphasizes, "A lot of people see Connecticut as a very affluent state with this 'blue blood' stigma attached to it. I'm not sure why—maybe because of its per capita. But I had a very different experience there. My childhood was a happy one, for the most part, but it certainly wasn't a life of privilege."

It was his upbringing that he says contributed to who he is today. "I learned to work hard for the things I wanted in life and about the value of a dollar from very early on. Like most people with East Coast upbringings, I learned to keep my feet firmly planted on the ground—or else I got slapped back down. I'd say that 'keep it real' mentality is my greatest homegrown asset."

As of late, Metcalfe has been promoting his films *Beyond a Reasonable Doubt* and *The Tortured*. In *Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*, a film-noir crime thriller, Metcalfe plays C.J. Nicholas, an overly eager and ambitious investigative journalist who suspects the local district attorney (played by Michael Douglas) of corruption.

Metcalfe notes that the crime thriller is one of his favorite genres; and that "the opportunity to work with Michael and our director, Peter Hyams, was a really incredible opportunity and experience for me."

In *The Tortured*, Metcalfe plays a loving family man who seeks revenge after his son's murder.

"Both characters are engaged in an inner struggle that is very tangible and very human, a struggle that we all face at some point or another," he reveals.

Even though acting may not have been his first choice, Metcalfe wouldn't change a thing.

"Life is trial and error," he begins. "First, I wanted to be a cowboy, then I wanted to be Superman, then Indiana Jones, then a psychologist, then a filmmaker—and now, I'm an actor. Who knows what I'll want to be next week."

"Hopefully [I will] have a long and inspired career as an actor, travel the world, help people through various philanthropic ventures by giving of myself and my time, become a more accomplished guitarist, spend time with my friends and family, and generally be a better man."

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

GO CAMPAIGN:

www.gocampaign.org

—Zelda Morgan